

communities. I support whatever directly benefits the resilient people of rural America, because they are the lifeblood of this country. That is why I support the Rural Development programs within the farm bill, and why I am bringing awareness to them now to ensure that these programs remain strong in the 2023 farm bill.

I will be back to the floor soon to deliver another installment of my farm bill impact series and highlight more programs and titles within the bill that I believe Congress must understand and support to ensure that agriculture and rural America thrives in this country.

CONGRATULATING DALE MOORE ON HIS
RETIREMENT

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Kansan, Dale Moore, and to congratulate him on his retirement from a career of dedicated service to farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers.

Dale grew up on a livestock, hay, and grain farm in Copeland, Kansas, which lies in my district, the Big First of Kansas. He went to Fort Hays State University, worked for Kansas Pork Producers Council, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and Senator Pat Roberts.

In 2001, President Bush appointed Dale to serve as chief of staff at USDA, after which he served as legislative director for the House Agriculture Committee. Most recently, Dale has been serving as executive vice president at the American Farm Bureau Federation where his presence will be deeply missed.

Dale has tirelessly advocated for agriculture for more than 40 years, and he never forgot his southwest Kansas roots or the values he learned there: hard work, others before self, and personal responsibility.

I am grateful for Dale's leadership and service, and I offer him, his wife, Faith, and their entire family my best wishes as they begin this new adventure.

Congratulations, Dale.

COMMONSENSE GUN SAFETY
REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I pose a few questions to my friends and colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

You certainly cannot be okay with criminals continuously being able to access guns.

You can't be okay with terrorists being able to buy guns.

You can't be okay with sociopaths continuing to buy guns.

You certainly can't be okay with what has happened in Uvalde; before that, Buffalo; what just happened in Tulsa, Sandy Hook, Parkland.

So if you are not okay with that, why the inaction? Why do you continue to prevent commonsense gun safety legislation that would stop sociopaths, ter-

rorists, and criminals from obtaining weapons? Why don't you work with us to pass commonsense legislation that, in many cases, over 90 percent of the public supports?

So many gun owners that I have talked to all across north Texas, people that are on the opposite end of the political spectrum to me, tell me that they support this commonsense gun safety legislation.

You continue to show inaction to the American public. It is unacceptable. We have got to do better. We have an opportunity to get something done this time around, and it is about time. The American public is sick of seeing nothing occur every time one of these massacres takes place in our country.

Madam Speaker, I urge our Republican colleagues to work with us on passing legislation that is long overdue and that the public is asking for. We can't continue to watch this happen and do nothing. We need to take action.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS IN OUR
NATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TONY GONZALES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness for the severe mental health crisis in our country.

Two weeks ago, there was a terrible incident that occurred in Uvalde, Texas; 19 innocent children were murdered and two of their teachers alongside them. Uvalde is in my district, Texas' 23rd District.

Over a year ago, after I got elected, I visited Uvalde and I sat down with the county judge, who is a Democrat, and the mayor, who is a Republican, and the local sheriff. I sat down with them, and I said, If I could do one thing, what would that be, gentlemen? And they go: Tony, we need a mental health hospital.

They identified this crisis over a year ago. Last year, we appropriated over \$2 million toward that hospital. It is a \$25-million project, and I am working on the remaining \$23 million to get that over the finish line. This is something that that community asked for.

There is so much division here in Congress. There is so much hate and rhetoric that gets spewed. I think mental health is an area that can bring us together, that can unite us as we go forward, not only as we reflect on what happened in Uvalde, but across the country.

COVID did something to this country. We are coming out of that, and I think part of the mental health crisis that is going on in our country has to be addressed. It is heartbreaking to see what happened, to be there as the Uvalde community heals and comes to-

gether. What I will say is, this mental health crisis goes beyond those that are looking to cause harm to themselves and others.

Madam Speaker, I would argue everyone in that community needs to sit down with a mental health provider; my staff, included. Our team essentially had turned into a mini FEMA office where we were answering all kinds of different claims every day and having to hear these horrendous stories and having to hear the issues that our community was dealing with.

So this crisis is very deep and it is very sad. It is an issue that this body needs to address. It needs to start early on, not wait until when an incident occurs. We have to start very early on. This shooter, this gunman, was a troubled young man for a very long time. It was no surprise to a lot of people what occurred. If we could have got ahead of the issue instead of waiting until the problem happened, I think that is critical.

Another thing a lot of people don't realize, the day of the shooting, there was actually a young lady that had suicide ideations, and two of the local law enforcement officers had taken her to San Antonio. This was hours before the shooting.

What does that mean? That means the community of Uvalde has a very deep mental health issue that is popping up every single day. And Uvalde isn't unique. It isn't just this one small town and this one incident. We have seen it happen all over the country.

Madam Speaker, I urge this body to come together. I urge Congress to come together and use this terrible incident to unite us in finding real, tangible solutions. Part of those solutions is identifying mental health resources which we can provide directly to the communities of need.

BABY FORMULA SHORTAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, in late April and early May when parents and Republicans in Congress began to sound the alarm about the unacceptable scarcity of baby formula, I thought to myself, Well, this is just another example of the compounding effect of the bad policies of the Biden administration.

But at the time, the facts had not come to light that the crisis is yet another direct result of the mismanagement and misguided Biden Presidency; a President focused on a woke, progressive agenda, while the basic functions of government are neglected or mismanaged.

The most critical fact that has come to light is that Abbott Nutrition's Sturgis plant supplied about one-fifth, 20 percent, of all infant formula in the United States before it closed. Furthermore, the company makes the majority of the formula for infants in the